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Tsuki Tsuki!

Chapter 35:
Words Unsaid

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For a long time, I would feel so uneasy whenever someone cried.
THERE, THERE... I SAID STOP CRYING.
OKAY.
I'M SHINOBU.
WRITTEN WITH THE 'NIN' OF NINJA.
WHAT'S YOUR NAME?
Perhaps that was
I'M...
because I saw a part of myself inside this person crying
MY NAME'S
"SAKURA", WRITTEN WITH...

SHIBAMINE TAKASHI
ORIGINAL WORK GOTO YUJIN
CHARACTER DESIGN KORIE RIKO

WORDS LEFT UNSAID THAT DAY.

AND SO, KINDNESS TURNS TO GUILT...

MEMORIES BROUGHT BACK.

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#35

WORDS UNSAID

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WHY AM I SEEING SUCH AN OLD DREAM AGAIN AFTER ALL THESE YEARS?
WHY...
MN...
HUH?
GOOD MORNING, NANJO-SAMA.
YOU REALLY LOOK SO ADORABLE WHEN YOU SLEEP.

MGGGGGHH?!
HEY,
QUIET NOW. YOU DON'T WANT TO WAKE THE OTHERS, DO YOU?
MHMM?
06
WAA AAH!!
NANJO'S BEING ATTACKED BY A MAID! WHAT A LUCKY BA-
GWEH?!
Huh?
SWEET (MAID) DREAMS.
NANJO-SAMA,
THERE'S LIKELY TO BE MORE INTERRUPTIONS HERE, SO...

WOULD YOU LIKE TO GO ON A LITTLE WALK?
07
HENCE I WAS HOPING TO SNEAK INTO YOUR ROOM LAST NIGHT AND HELP YOU GET USED TO A WOMAN BY USING MY OWN BODY, BUT I ONLY ENDED UP COMING IN THE MORNING...
YOUR LACK OF IMMUNITY AGAINST WOMEN IS GOING TO POSE A HINDRANCE FOR WHEN HIJIRI-CHAN USES HER YIN-YANG MAGIC.
Kaorun is an angel!
...SO WHAT'S UP?
Fwaah
IT'S STILL SO EARLY...
SHAME WE WERE INTERRUPTED, THOUGH RIGHT?
YOU CAME ALL THE WAY HERE TO TELL ME A JOKE?

DON'T WORRY, I'VE ALREADY FORGOTTEN.
OH...
YESTERDAY?
...I WANTED TO APOLOGISE ABOUT YESTERDAY.
I WAS JUST...
JEALOUS OF HER.
NO, NOT AT ALL.
DO YOU HATE MACHINA?
BUT STILL,

AS YOU KNOW, I AM AN IMPURE DEMON.
FOR AS LONG AS I CAN REMEMBER, I'VE BEEN TREATED AS A TOOL AT THE EXORCISTS' DISPOSAL.
IN FACT, EVERYONE ASIDE FROM THE GOGYO FAMILY CONSIDERS ME TO BE NOTHING BUT A TOOL.
I EVEN ACCEPTED THAT THIS WAS MY FATE.
I MEAN...
MY BLOOD IS TAINTED...
BUT SHE SHOULD BE THE SAME AS ME...
YET
SHE AND I ARE COMPLETELY DIFFERENT.

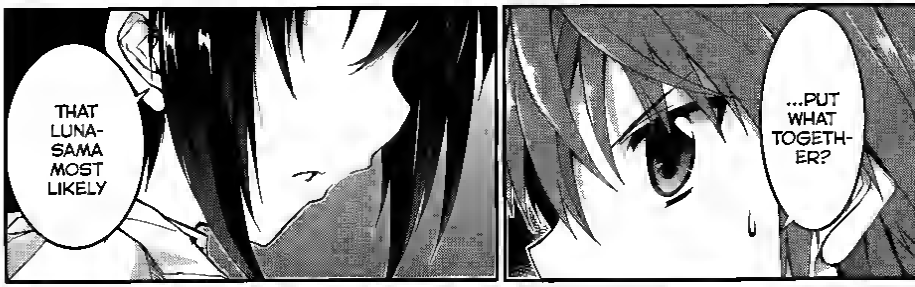
...YET MACHINA-SAMA AND I ARE DIFFERENT.
SHE'S BEEN BLESSED WITH HER UPBRINGING.
アアア...
HIJIRI-CHAN TOLD ME
THAT MACHINA-SAMA IS, LIKE ME, HALF-HUMAN AND HALF-DEMON.

MACHINA HASN'T HAD IT PERFECT EITHER.
HEY, WAIT.

...I KNOW. I'M SURE MACHINA-SAMA HAS SUFFERED TOO.
BUT...
I WOULDN'T CALL IT A BLESSING...
IT'S NOT THAT SIMPLE.

SHE AT LEAST KNOWS WHAT IT FEELS LIKE TO HAVE BEEN LOVED.
UNLIKE ME...
OR LUNA-SAMA.
LUNA TOO?
WHAT DO YOU MEAN?

I DON'T KNOW THE FULL EXTENT OF LUNA-SAMA'S BACKGROUND,
BUT THE FACT THAT SHE'S A DEMON, SHE BEARS THE CROSS-SHAPED SCAR ON HER LEFT HAND,
AND THAT SHE'S UNABLE TO DEPEND ON SOMEONE ELSE'S KINDNESS,
I CAN PRETTY MUCH PUT IT ALL TOGETHER.


...PUT WHAT TOGETHER?
THAT LUNA-SAMA MOST LIKELY

HAS NEVER BEEN LOVED BEFORE.

SHE WASN'T ABLE TO DEPEND ON OTHERS.
SHE WASN'T ALLOWED TO DEPEND ON OTHERS.

WOULDN'T THAT EXPLAIN WHY SHE DOESN'T SEEM TO KNOW HOW TO COMPLETELY DEPEND ON SOMEONE?
THOUGH SHE MAY APPEAR TO FAWN ON YOU.
I ALWAYS SEE HER AS SOMEWHAT HESITANT.

Luna always kept to herself when she first came to our place...
That was..
because although she wanted to depend on us...
she didn't know how as she hadn't done so before...
WERE YOU
She barely depended on us until I told her that it was okay to...
YES.
ALSO UNABLE TO DEPEND ON OTHERS?
UNTIL I MET MILADY, I'VE NEVER ONCE DEPENDED ON SOMEONE ELSE.
BUT...
I'M A TOOL AND MILADY IS MY MASTER.
DEPEND-ING ON HER...
WAS NEVER AN OPTION IN THE FIRST PLACE.

I WAS JEALOUS OF MACHINA-SAMA...!
WHICH IS WHY...
SHE HAS ALL OF YOU.
YOU, LUNA-SAMA, ELNI-SAMA, NAZUNA-SAMA.
MACHINA-SAMA IS ABLE TO DEPEND ON OTHERS.
15
BUT SHE'S TOTALLY DIFFER-ENT!
SHE'S SUPPOSED TO BE THE SAME AS ME...

MILADY TELLS ME I'M FAMILY...
BUT I DON'T KNOW HOW
ポロ
I'M SUP-POSED TO RESPOND...
DEMONS, MIXED-BLOODED, AND ALL THAT HAS NOTHING TO DO WITH IT AT ALL.
LET ME JUST SAY ONE THING.
...KAORU.

YOU'RE NOT A TOOL OR ANYTHING LIKE THAT.
EVEN IF OTHERS SAY YOU ARE, I PROMISE YOU AREN'T.
YOU ARE KAORU.
YOU ARE MY FRIEND, KAORUN.

SO FEEL FREE TO DEPEND ON ME.
IF YOU DON'T KNOW HOW, JUST JOKE AROUND LIKE YOU USUALLY DO.

I'LL STAY WITH YOU... FOR AS LONG AS YOU LIKE.
TH...
THANK YOU, NANJO-SAMA.
...NO.
SHINOBU-SAMA.
THANK YOU SO MUCH.
NEW BONDS ARE BORN
TO BE CONTINUED
IN ISSUE #2 WHICH COMES OUT IN JAPAN DECEMBER 27TH!!

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